



PATENT
03150-P0001A WWW/TMO/DC

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#13

In Re The Application Of

Cory Attra, *et al.*

Examiner: Vig, Naresh

Serial No.: 09/497,554

Group Art Unit: 3629

Filed: February 3, 2000

Confirmation No. 7650

For: System For Automating And
Improving Home Design And
Construction

RECEIVED
MAR 09 2004
GROUP 3600

Appeal Brief Under 37 C.F.R. §1.192


Mail Stop Appeal Brief - Patents
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Having filed herewith a Notice of Appeal from the final rejection of Claims 1-26, all of the claims currently pending, the final rejection being mailed on November 18, 2003, Appellant submits its Appeal Brief for the above-captioned application pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.192 in triplicate as follows.

Certificate of Mailing: I hereby certify that this correspondence is today being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: : Mail Stop Appeal Brief - Patents; Commissioner for Patents; P.O. Box 1450; Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

March 3, 2004


Linda A. Ferranti

Real Parties in Interest

The real parties in interest are the inventors, Cory Attra of 17 Steep Hill Road; Weston, CT 06883, and Marc Pritchard of 4738 Cache Peak Drive; Antioch, CA 94509.

Related Appeals and Interferences

There are no related appeals or interferences.

Status Of Claims

Claims 1-26 are currently pending, stand rejected and are the subject of the instant Appeal. A copy of each of these claims is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

Status Of Amendments

Subsequent to the Final Rejection being mailed on November 18, 2003, Appellant filed one Amendment making amendments of a clerical nature to Claims 12 and 13. These Amendments were entered by the Examiner and are reflected in the copy of the Claims attached hereto as Exhibit A.

Summary Of Invention

As described in the specification, the claimed invention relates to an improved system **10** for providing construction services. System **10** includes a system computer **12**, having query routine software **14** and calculation routine software **16** executing thereon. System **10** may also include one or more databases **18** which may be used by system **10** as described fully below. (see page 10, lines 2-6; Figure 1).

Query routine software **14** generates queries **20** pertinent to the design of a home and transmits queries **20** through an internet communication link **22** to a user computer **24**. A user operating user computer **24** then views queries **20**, composes responses **26** to queries **20**, and transmits responses **26** to system computer **12** through internet communication link **22**. Calculation routine software **16** uses query responses **26** to calculate a home plan, perform work package calculations to generate a breakdown based on the home plan, and generate various other pertinent documents, such as a bankable estimate and an offer to build. These documents **28** are transmitted back to user computer **24** through internet communication link **22**. (see page 10, lines 7-16; Figure 1).

References Cited And Applied

- (1) Website: www.collectivedesigns.com ("CollectiveDesigns").
- (2) APMatics AutoCAD Application Programs ("APMatics").
- (3) Website: www.choochoobuilditmart.com ("ChooChoo").
- (4) Book: "Managing Projects with Microsoft Project 4.0" by Glen Lowery ("Lowery").

Grounds Of Rejection

Claims 1-7, 12-15, 23 and 26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over CollectiveDesigns in view of APMatics.

Claims 8-11, 16-19, 24 and 25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over CollectiveDesigns in view of APMatics and further in view of ChooChoo.

Claims 20-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over CollectiveDesigns in view of Lowery.

Issues Presented For Review

- (1) Whether a rejection is proper under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) when even if the references are combined as suggested by the Examiner, the resulting combination does still does not include at least one element of each claim.

Grouping of Claims

The claims do not stand or fall together. Independent Claim 1 is directed to one aspect of the present invention involving creating a home plan and a breakdown based upon received responses to transmitted queries, and modifying the created home plan and the breakdown based upon requests for modifications.

Independent Claim 12 is directed to another aspect of the present invention involving retrieving one of a plurality of home plans from a database based upon received responses to transmitted queries and modifying the retrieved home plan based upon received requests for modification. Independent Claim 20 is directed to still another aspect of the present invention involving the provision of a system for the facilitation and streamlining of the construction process. Independent Claim 23 is directed to yet another aspect of the present invention involving the repairing or rebuilding of a home for which the system of Claims 1 or 12 was used to construct the home in the first place. Thus, each of the independent claims is directed to a completely different aspect of the invention, and they do not stand or fall together.

Each of the dependent claims adds specific additional elements to the novel combination of the independent claims. As such, all claims must be

considered because it is improper to fail to consider any limitation in the claims. In re Geerdes, 491 F.2d 1260, 1262, 180 U.S.P.Q. 789, the 791 (CCPA 1974) (“every limitation in the claim must be given effect rather than considering one in isolation from the others”).

Argument

Independent Claim 1

As discussed above, independent Claim 1 is directed to one aspect of the present invention involving creating a home plan and a breakdown based upon received responses to transmitted queries, and modifying the created home plan and the breakdown based upon requests for modifications. As such, Claim 1 requires, among other elements: (1) software for creating a home plan based on received responses to transmitted queries; (2) software for performing work package calculations on the home plan to create a breakdown; (3) for creating a modified home plan based upon received requests for modification; and (4) software for performing work package calculations on the modified home plan to create a modified breakdown. Appellant respectfully suggests that at least the above-highlighted elements are not disclosed, taught or suggested by the cited references.

More specifically, Neither CollectiveDesigns nor APMatics discloses, teaches, or suggests software for creating a home plan or a modified home plan based upon received responses or requests from users. Also, neither reference discloses, teaches, or suggests software executing on the computer for performing work package calculations, which are a breakdown of all components to design and construct a home.

In the Final Office Action dated November 18, 2003, the Examiner states: "In response to applicant's argument that neither CollectiveDesigns nor APMatics teach software for creating home plans. APMatics discloses that it makes available readily downloadable and custom, made-to-order CAD command and drawing management applications [page 1]." However Appellant fails to see how this assertion, even if completely accurate, is relevant in any way. Claim 1 does not require the creation of custom made CAD applications. Claim 1 requires that the software create home plans in response to user input. APMatics does not disclose, teach or suggest this in any way.

CollectiveDesigns relates to a website that provides a user with access to a database of already created home plans. The user may search for a plan by a variety of criteria, such as square footage, number of bedrooms, number of

bathrooms, and other specifications. In response to the user submitted search criteria, the website sends any plan or plans matching the search criteria. However, no home plans are created. The home plans sent to the user are not created in response to the search criteria. The home plans of CollectiveDesigns were created before being stored on the database and are not created after receiving search criteria. Hence, these home plans on CollectiveDesigns are not customized, as they are in Appellant's invention, where home plans are created or modified in response to user inputted information.

Additionally, CollectiveDesigns does not disclose, teach, or suggest software for performing work package calculations on the home plan to create a breakdown of all components to design and construct a home. Nowhere does CollectiveDesigns perform any calculations whatsoever. APMatics relates to bundling multiple commands together in order to save time and keystrokes. "The ability to add command functions which automate or otherwise facilitate tasks requiring numerous steps using standard CAD commands." (see APMatics page 1). APMatics does not create the commands or modify them but merely combines them so that several steps are accomplished in sequence with fewer strokes. A combination of APMatics would provide the ability to use the CollectiveDesigns website with ease by combining several steps together into something similar to a

macro. Because no home plans were created or modified in response to user inputted information, combining the teachings of APMatics would also not provide Appellant's claimed invention.

Also, neither reference discloses, teaches, or suggests software executing on the computer for performing work package calculations, which is software that categorizes and inventories supply and aggregate prices and produces comprehensive breakdowns of all components to design and construct a home (see page 10 of Appellant's specification). The Examiner states that CollectiveDesigns provides materials list which details the quantities, type, and size of materials. However, even if such is true, there is no indication that it was the CollectiveDesigns software which created such lists. Rather, Appellant respectfully submits that it is the state of the art for the architect or designer who created the plan to manually create such lists, and absent any teaching to the contrary, submits that such is how any materials lists were likely created in the CollectiveDesigns system.

Because Claim 1 requires elements which are not disclosed, taught or suggested by either CollectiveDesigns or APMatics, either alone or in combination, Appellant respectfully submits that the rejection thereof is improper.

More specifically, Appellant submits that the combination of CollectiveDesigns and APMatics does not render Appellant's invention unpatentable absent some modification to the references to meet the limitations of Appellant's claims. In order for a reference to be properly modified under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), there must be some teaching or suggestion in the references to make the suggested modifications in order to provide the motivation for one skilled in the art to make these modifications. Here, there is no teaching or suggestion in either CollectiveDesigns or APMatics to provide software for creating a home plan or a modified home plan based upon received responses or requests from users and/or software for performing work package calculations.

It should further be noted that the ChooChoo and Lowery references similarly do not disclose, teach or suggest the missing elements, and indeed the Examiner has not cited there references for such a proposition.

Independent Claim 12

As discussed above, independent Claim 12 is directed to another aspect of the present invention involving retrieving one of a plurality of home plans from a database based upon received responses to transmitted queries and modifying the retrieved home plan based upon received requests for modification. As such,

Claim 12 requires, among other elements, software for creating a modified home plan based upon received requests for modification. Appellant respectfully suggests that at least the above-highlighted element is not disclosed, taught or suggested by the cited references.

More specifically, Neither CollectiveDesigns nor APMatics discloses, teaches, or suggests software for creating a modified home plan based upon received responses or requests from users.

CollectiveDesigns relates to a website that provides a user with access to a database of stock manually created home plans. The user may search for a plan by a variety of criteria, such as square footage, number of bedrooms, number of bathrooms, and other specifications. In response to the user submitted search criteria, the website sends any plan or plans matching the search criteria. The home plans sent to the user are created manually and are simply in a computer displayable format. Hence, these home plans on CollectiveDesigns are not customized, as they are in Appellant's invention, where home plans are modified by my software in response to user inputted information.

The Examiner cites a portion of CollectiveDesigns which states: "For a small fee you can add a room, change the exterior design, add more or less square foot, etc. If you are interested in making revisions to a particular plan jut send us your modification via e-mail." Although the Examiner recognizes that what CollectiveDesigns contemplates is that a human architect or designer will read the email and then manually change the stock plan, the Examiner cites *In re Venner* for the proposition that it would have been obvious to automate the manual modification process taught by CollectiveDesigns. Appellant respectfully disagrees.

In CollectiveDesigns, the home plan is a manually created plan that is simply in a computer displayable format. The home plans were not created by the software, as are plans in the present invention (see arguments presented above). Because the home plans were manually created, Appellant submits that it would be extremely difficult, if not impossible, for the modifications to be automatically carried out by software. This is not a case where it would be a simple matter to automate a step of a prior art process. In order to arrive at the present invention, one skilled in the art would first have to develop a system by which home plans could be created by software in the first place, and then recognize that the

modification process could be automated. As such, Appellant respectfully submits that *In re Venner* is not applicable.

It should further be noted that the APMatics, ChooChoo and Lowery references similarly do not disclose, teach or suggest the missing element, and indeed the Examiner has not cited there references for such a proposition.

Independent Claim 23

As discussed above, independent Claim 23 is directed to yet another aspect of the present invention involving the repairing or rebuilding of a home for which the system of Claims 1 or 12 was used to construct the home in the first place. As such, Claim 23 requires, among other elements: (1) a database having stored thereon a plurality of subscriber home plans accessible by a value attributed to a subscriber identification; (2) software for receiving a subscriber identification and for retrieving from the database a home plan corresponding to the value attributed to the received subscriber identification; (3) software for performing work package calculations on the home plan to create a breakdown; (4) software for creating a modified home plan based upon received requests for modification; and (5) software for performing work package calculations on the modified home plan to create a modified breakdown.

The failure of the cited prior art to disclose, teach or suggest elements (3) - (5) is discussed in detail above. In addition, Claim 23 requires a database of subscriber home plans and the retrieval of a subscriber home plan from the database based upon a subscriber identification. The purpose for such a database is to allow home plans created by the system to be easily and automatically recalled and/or modified during remodeling or reconstruction. As discussed above, the prior art does not disclose, teach or suggest software which has the ability to create home plans. Consequently, the prior art does not disclose (and it would not be obvious to modify the prior art to incorporate) software having the ability to modify home plans based upon user requests. In view of these facts, Appellant respectfully submits that there would be no motivation to modify the prior art to incorporate a database to allow home plans created by the system to be easily and automatically recalled and/or modified during remodeling or reconstruction.

Independent Claim 20

As discussed above, Independent Claim 20 is directed to still another aspect of the present invention involving the provision of a system for the facilitation and streamlining of the construction process. As such, Claim 20

requires, among other elements: (1) software for creating a construction plan, the construction plan having a plurality of construction steps and an indication of construction progress, whether each of the steps is ready to occur being dependent on construction progress; (2) a construction plan database having the created construction plan stored thereon; (3) software for periodically examining the construction plan stored on the database, for determining if at least one of the construction steps is ready to occur based upon the indication of construction progress, and for creating and transmitting a notification to goods and services providers if at least one of the construction steps is ready to occur; and (4) software for receiving indications from goods and services providers of changes in the construction progress and for updating the construction plan stored on the database based upon the received indications of changes in construction progress.

As mentioned above, CollectiveDesigns does not provide a user with anything more than access to a database of pre-created house plans. Further, CollectiveDesigns does not disclose, teach, or suggest software for without user intervention, and in response to user submitted information, periodically examining the construction plan stored on a database. In fact, CollectiveDesigns does not perform any examination of any construction plan. CollectiveDesigns does not

disclose, teach, or suggest software executing without user intervention for determining if at least one of the construction steps is ready to occur based upon an indication of construction progress or software executing without user intervention for creating and transmitting a notification to goods and services providers if at least one of the construction steps is ready to occur.

CollectiveDesigns does not operate without user intervention. CollectiveDesigns does not make any determination if any construction step is ready to occur based upon an indication of construction progress nor does CollectiveDesigns create or transmit any notification if a construction step is ready to occur.

Lowery relates to software for keeping track of project information. Lowery does not disclose, teach, or suggest, and the Examiner does not rely upon Lowery for, software for periodically examining the construction plan stored on a database. The Examiner indicates that Microsoft Project can be used to keep track of project information where a user enters a list of tasks and resources and where the user creates a project plan. The user can then use Microsoft Project's Tracking Gantt to compare current schedule to the original schedule.

However, Lowery does not disclose, teach, or suggest that software performs any of these steps without user intervention. As stated on page 29 of

Appellant's specification, "System 10 periodically retrieves and examines the construction plan 162 from construction plans on database 160 to determine if the job is ready for commencement of the next step 164." Lowery is quite different from Appellant's invention in that user intervention is required in Lowery but not in Appellant's invention.

Microsoft Project is not relied upon as disclosing software executing on the computer, without user intervention, for periodically examining a construction plan, for determining if a construction step is ready to occur, or for creating and transmitting a notification if a construction plan is ready to occur.

Because both Lowery and CollectiveDesigns both do not disclose, teach, or suggest software executing without user intervention for periodically examining a construction plan, for determining if a construction step is ready to occur, and for creating and transmitting a notification if a construction plan is ready to occur, all of which are claimed in Appellant's Claim 20, the combination of Lowery and CollectiveDesigns does not render Appellant's invention obvious absent some modification to the references.

In order for a reference to be properly modified under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), there must be some teaching or suggestion in the reference to make the suggested modifications in order to provide the motivation for one skilled in the art to make these modifications. There is no teaching or suggestion in either CollectiveDesigns or Lowery to provide software executing without user intervention for periodically examining the construction plan stored on a database, for determining if at least one of the construction steps is ready to occur based upon an indication of construction progress, and for creating and transmitting a notification to goods and services providers if at least one of the construction steps is ready to occur. Without the requisite teaching or suggestion to provide software executing without user intervention, the references do not provide any reason or logic for such modifications. The person of ordinary skill in the art does not have the current application in front of him/her when considering such modifications. Hence, there is no reason why one skilled in the art would modify CollectiveDesigns or Lowery to arrive at the claimed invention absent having the current application.

Again, the Examiner cites *In re Venner* for the proposition that it would have been obvious to automate the manual project management process taught by CollectiveDesigns in combination with Lowery. However, Appellant respectfully

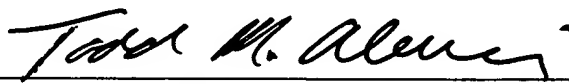
submits that the Examiner had misapplied that case. For example, the very first element of Claim 20 requires software for creating a construction plan. Appellant respectfully submits that such a requirement only makes sense if the home plan which forms the basis of the construction plan was created by the software. Otherwise, it would be extremely difficult if not impossible (and certainly not obvious) for software to create the construction plan. More specifically, as discussed above, in CollectiveDesigns the home plans are stock home plans, manually created, which are in a computer displayable format. Even assuming that one was provided with some motivation to automate the process of creating a construction plan based upon the manually created home plan of CollectiveDesigns (which *In re Venner* says we must do), such would not be a trivial matter. In fact, such may not even be possible. It is only because the home plan was created by the system of the present invention that it becomes practicable to generate the construction plan using the system's software, and of course, the system of the present invention cannot be used as part of the Examiner's obviousness determination.

Conclusion

Appellant has made a significant advance over the prior art by providing creating a system which automatically creates a home plan and a breakdown based upon received responses to transmitted queries, which modifies created home plans and the breakdowns based upon requests for modifications, which facilitates the repairing or rebuilding of a home constructed in accordance with a created home plan, and which facilitates and streamlines the construction process of a home built in accordance with a created home plan. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims is believed in order, and such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

March 1, 2004



Wesley W. Whitmyer, Jr., Registration No. 33,558
Todd M. Oberdick, Reg. No. 44,268
ST. ONGE STEWARD JOHNSTON & REENS
986 Bedford Street
Stamford, Connecticut 06905
(203) 324-6155

Attorneys for Appellant

EXHIBIT A - Pending Claims

1. (previously presented) A system for providing construction services

comprising:

a computer;

software executing on said computer for transmitting queries and for receiving responses to the transmitted queries;

software executing on said computer for creating a home plan based on the received responses to the transmitted queries;

software executing on said computer for performing work package calculations on the home plan to create a breakdown;

software executing on said computer for displaying details of the home plan and for receiving requests for modification of the details of the home plan;

software executing on said computer for creating a modified home plan based upon the received requests for modification; and

software executing on said computer for performing work package calculations on the modified home plan to create a modified breakdown.

2. (original) The system for providing construction services of Claim 1 further comprising a database having a plurality of home plans stored thereon and wherein the software executing on said computer for generating a home plan comprises:

software executing on said computer for retrieving one of the plurality of home plans stored on said database based on the responses to the transmitted queries.

3. (original) The system for providing construction services of Claim 1 wherein the software executing on said computer for generating a home plan comprises:

software executing on said computer for generating a scope summary based on the received responses to the transmitted queries; and

software executing on said computer for generating a home plan based on the scope summary.

4. (original) The system for providing construction services of Claim 3 wherein the queries comprise queries relating to a user's lifestyle and fundamental needs and wherein the scope summary comprises a user profile from which the system generates a home plan.

5. (original) The system for providing construction services of Claim 3 wherein the queries comprise queries relating to required details of the home plan and wherein the scope summary comprises a home specification.

6. (original) The system for providing construction services of Claim 1 further comprising:

software executing on said computer for receiving information necessary to prepare an offer;

software executing on said computer for generating contract documents using the received information; and

software executing on said computer for using the contract documents and the breakdown to generate and transmit an offer.

7. (original) The system for providing construction services of Claim 6 further comprising:

software executing on said computer for generating and transmitting offers to goods and services providers for supplies needed and work to be performed;

software executing on said computer for receiving acceptances of the offers to goods and services providers; and

software executing on said computer for generating a ratification of a purchase order for each of the offers to goods and service providers for which acceptances are received and for opening a bidding process for each of the offers to goods and service providers for which acceptances are not received.

8. (original) The system for providing construction services of Claim 1 further comprising:

software executing on said computer for receiving information necessary to prepare a bankable estimate; and

software executing on said computer for using the received information and the breakdown to generate and transmit a bankable estimate.

9. (original) The system for providing construction services of Claim 1 further comprising:

software executing on said computer for generating a construction plan, the construction plan having a plurality of construction steps and an indication of construction progress, whether each of the steps is ready to occur being dependent on construction progress;

a construction plan database having the generated construction plan stored thereon;

software executing on said computer for periodically examining the construction plan stored on said database, for determining if at least one of the construction steps is ready to occur based upon the indication of construction progress, and for generating and transmitting a notification to goods and services providers if at least one of the construction steps is ready to occur; and

software executing on said computer for receiving indications from goods and services providers of changes in the construction progress and for updating the construction plan stored on said database based upon the received indications of changes in construction progress.

10. (original) The system for providing construction services of Claim 9 further comprising a website for retrieving and displaying the home plan stored on said database, said website accessible by a user, thereby allowing the user to view the home plan and the construction progress.

11. (original) The system for providing construction services of Claim 10 wherein the construction steps take place at a construction site and further comprising a video input device located at the construction site, said video input device transmitting images of the construction site to said website.

12. (previously presented) A system for providing construction services comprising:

- a computer;

- software executing on said computer for transmitting queries and for receiving responses to the transmitted queries;

- a database having a plurality of home plans stored thereon;

- software executing on said computer for retrieving one of said plurality of home plans stored on said database based on the responses to the transmitted queries; and

- software executing on said computer for creating a modified home plan based upon received requests for modification.

13. (previously presented) The system for providing construction services of Claim 12 further comprising:

software executing on said computer for performing work package calculations on the home plan to create a breakdown;

software executing on said computer for displaying details of the home plan and for receiving requests for modification of the details of the home plan;
and

software executing on said computer for performing work package calculations on the modified home plan to create a modified breakdown.

14. (original) The system for providing construction services of Claim 13 further comprising:

software executing on said computer for receiving information necessary to prepare an offer;

software executing on said computer for generating contract documents using the received information; and

software executing on said computer for using the contract documents and the breakdown to generate and transmit an offer.

15. (original) The system for providing construction services of Claim 14 further comprising:

software executing on said computer for generating and transmitting offers to goods and services providers for supplies needed and work to be performed;

software executing on said computer for receiving acceptances of the offers to goods and services providers; and

software executing on said computer for generating a ratification of a purchase order for each of the offers to goods and service providers for which acceptances are received and for opening a bidding process for each of the offers to goods and service providers for which acceptances are not received.

16. (original) The system for providing construction services of Claim 13 further comprising:

software executing on said computer for receiving information necessary to prepare a bankable estimate; and

software executing on said computer for using the received information and the breakdown to generate and transmit a bankable estimate.

17. (original) The system for providing construction services of Claim 12 further comprising:

software executing on said computer for generating a construction plan, the construction plan having a plurality of construction steps and an indication of

construction progress, whether each of the steps is ready to occur being dependent on construction progress;

a construction plan database having the generated construction plan stored thereon;

software executing on said computer for periodically examining the construction plan stored on said database, for determining if at least one of the construction steps is ready to occur based upon the indication of construction progress, and for generating and transmitting a notification to goods and services providers if at least one of the construction steps is ready to occur; and

software executing on said computer for receiving indications from goods and services providers of changes in the construction progress and for updating the construction plan stored on said database based upon the received indications of changes in construction progress.

18. (original) The system for providing construction services of Claim 17 further comprising a website for retrieving and displaying the home plan stored on said database, said website accessible by a user, thereby allowing the user to view the home plan and the construction progress.

19. (original) The system for providing construction services of Claim 18 wherein the construction steps take place at a construction site and further

comprising a video input device located at the construction site, said video input device transmitting images of the construction site to said website.

20. (previously presented) A system for providing construction services comprising:

- a computer;

- software executing on said computer for creating a construction plan, the construction plan having a plurality of construction steps and an indication of construction progress, whether each of the steps is ready to occur being dependent on construction progress;

- a construction plan database having the created construction plan stored thereon;

- software executing on said computer for periodically examining the construction plan stored on said database, for determining if at least one of the construction steps is ready to occur based upon the indication of construction progress, and for creating and transmitting a notification to goods and services providers if at least one of the construction steps is ready to occur; and

- software executing on said computer for receiving indications from goods and services providers of changes in the construction progress and for updating the construction plan stored on said database based upon the received indications of changes in construction progress.

21. (original) The system for providing construction services of Claim 20 further comprising a website for retrieving and displaying the home plan stored on said database, said website accessible by a user, thereby allowing the user to view the home plan and the construction progress.

22. (original) The system for providing construction services of Claim 21 wherein the construction steps take place at a construction site and further comprising a video input device located at the construction site, said video input device transmitting images of the construction site to said website.

23. (previously presented) A system for facilitating the repairing and rebuilding comprising:

- a computer;

- a database having stored thereon a plurality of subscriber home plans accessible by a value attributed to a subscriber identification;

- software executing on said computer for receiving a subscriber identification and for retrieving from said database a home plan corresponding to the value attributed to the received subscriber identification;

- software executing on said computer for performing work package calculations on the home plan to create a breakdown;

- software executing on said computer for displaying details of the home plan and for receiving requests for modification of the details of the home plan;

software executing on said computer for creating a modified home plan based upon the received requests for modification; and

software executing on said computer for performing work package calculations on the modified home plan to create a modified breakdown.

24. (original) The system for providing construction services of Claim 23 further comprising:

software executing on said computer for receiving information necessary to prepare an offer;

software executing on said computer for generating contract documents using the received information; and

software executing on said computer for using the contract documents and the breakdown to generate and transmit an offer.

25. (original) The system for providing construction services of Claim 24 further comprising:

software executing on said computer for generating and transmitting offers to goods and services providers for supplies needed and work to be performed;

software executing on said computer for receiving acceptances of the offers to goods and services providers; and

software executing on said computer for generating a ratification of a purchase order for each of the offers to goods and service providers for which acceptances are received and for opening a bidding process for each of the offers to goods and service providers for which acceptances are not received.

26. (original) The system for providing construction services of Claim 23 further comprising:

software executing on said computer for receiving information necessary to prepare a bankable estimate; and

software executing on said computer for using the received information and the breakdown to generate and transmit a bankable estimate.